

PT. 4: A BUILDING

SCRIPTURE:

1 Peter 2:4–7, *As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says: ‘See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.’ ⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious...*

THE CHURCH IS...

- The church is made of _____ filled with God’s _____.
- When Jesus died, the veil was torn (Matthew 27:51). God’s Spirit moved from the _____ into _____.

THE CHURCH IS A BUILDING BECAUSE...

- Jesus is the _____.
 - *See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame. (v.6)*
 - *The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone... (Psalm 118:22)*
 - Observations: _____

- God the Father is the _____.
 - *Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. (Psalm 127:1)*
 - Observations: _____

- The Holy Spirit _____.
 - *Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)*
 - *And we all...are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:18)*
 - Observations: _____

ADDITIONAL NOTES

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THEME:

The church isn't a place; it's a people built together as God's spiritual house. Jesus is the cornerstone, and each believer is a living stone, uniquely placed by God to reflect His presence in the world.

SCRIPTURE:

1 Peter 2:4–7

ICE-BREAKER

1. Have you ever built something (a project, Lego set, or furniture) and realized later that you missed a key piece? How did it affect the whole structure?
2. If your life were a building, what kind of structure would it be right now? Would it be sturdy, under renovation, needing repairs, or something else?

REFLECT (Read 1 Peter 2:4–7 together)

3. Peter describes Jesus as the cornerstone of God's building. Why is it significant that everything in the church is built on Him? (1 Peter 2:6; 1 Corinthians 3:11)
4. What does it mean to be "living stones" built into a spiritual house? How does this picture emphasize both individuality and unity? (1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19–22)
5. How does seeing yourself as part of God's building change the way you think about church—not as a place you go, but as a structure you belong to? (Hebrews 3:6; Matthew 16:18)

6. Peter says God chooses, places, and joins the stones together. How does this truth help you trust God's plan for where you fit in His church? (1 Peter 2:4; Psalm 127:1)

TAKE ACTION

7. Where in your life do you sense God "shaping" or "chipping away" so you can better fit as a living stone in His building? (Romans 8:29; Philippians 1:6)
8. Since you are part of God's spiritual house, how can your daily decisions and relationships reflect the holiness of His temple? (1 Corinthians 6:19–20; Colossians 3:17)
9. When life feels unstable, what helps you realign your foundation with Christ the cornerstone? (Isaiah 28:16; Matthew 7:24–25)
10. How would your community view Jesus differently if the church consistently lived as a holy, unified building built on Him? (Ephesians 2:21–22; Matthew 5:14–16)

CLOSING CHALLENGES

- **Practice:** Take 5 minutes each day this week to thank God that He is building you into His spiritual house. Ask Him to show you where He is shaping your life to fit His plan.
- **Prayer:** Pray that your church would stay aligned with Christ the cornerstone and grow together in unity as a holy dwelling place for God's Spirit.